LONGDENDALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer's Report for the year ending 31st December, 1967.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the health of the Urban District of Longdendale during 1967.

The population of Longdendale was estimated to be 9,600 in the middle of 1967. During the year 105 deaths were recorded and 163 live births. Of the deaths 55 were males and 50 were females. In the male deaths 26 (47%) were under the age of 65 years compared with 15 (30%) female deaths under the age of 65 years. The bulk of these untimely deaths were due to Heart Disease, Strokes and Cancer.

The overall crude death rate was only 10.9 per thousand living but the Area Comparability Factor given by the Registrar General for the purpose of adjusting our crude death rate so that it can be fairly compared with the national average, was 1.47. Applying this factor gives us an adjusted death rate of 16 per thousand, an exceptionally high figure. The national death rate for the same year was only 11.2 per thousand. In a small population deaths can fluctuate from year to year though not as a rule so as to produce so big a variation in our death rate. I very strongly suspect that the Area Comparability Factor is the figure at fault and that it is much too high. In 1966 when those aged 65 and over comprised 10.6% of our population, the Area Comparability Factor was only 1.29. Since that time I have reason to believe that the proportion of older people has increased slightly so that the Area Comparability Factor should have been less in 1967 and not greater. Without conducting a new census this cannot be proved but I do think that the situation is not so gloomy as the official figures might suggest.

Recently it has been pointed out that Longdendale is one of those authorities in the North West where no action has been taken to provide clean air. The degree of pollution recorded in the district is not insignificant and will soon be well above the figures recorded in much more heavily populated areas where radical action has been taken. What goes up comes down sooner or later, and in the case of smoke from the domestic chimney, the smoke comes down a great deal sooner than most people realise. The air of the older portion of Longdendale is not clean and I recommend to the Council that it gives serious consideration of the need to put into practice the powers available to them through the clean air acts.

I need hardly remind the Council that legislation controlling the environment is always on the increase. Improvements to houses, inspection of offices and shops and the clearing away of old cars and other unsightly rubbish are all the subjects of recent legislation. Whilst this legislation has increased, with its accompanying demand on the time of your one Public Health Inspector, your population has now more than doubled. It is probable that today the population of Longdendale and Tintwistle combined is nearer 12,000 than 11,000.

The duties that fall to the lot of the Public Health Inspector in these two areas are now far beyond the capacity of one man, no matter how willing a horse he may be. There is today enough work in these districts for two full time inspectors. If additional help is not given then essential work must be left undone. This need is urgent and I hope that Mr. Skirrow will get the help he needs as quickly as possible.

I would like to pay tribute to the work of Mr. Skirrow, and to Mr. Sargent and Mr. Sidebottom for their willing help and guidance given freely at all times.

May I also thank members of the Council for their interest in Public Health matters.

Yours faithfully,

A. S. DARLING.

Medical Officer of Health.
Longdendale Urban District Council.

POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate for mid-1967 was 9,600.

BIRTHS

There were 163 live births during 1967. Of these 80 were males and 83 females.

The Crude Birth Rate was 17.0 per 1,000 compared with 16.5 per 1,000 in 1966. When adjusted for comparative purposes with other areas the birth rate was 14.96 per 1,000 compared with 17.2 for England and Wales.

DEATHS

The number of deaths during 1967 was 105. Of these 55 were males and 50 females. The Crude Death Rate was 10.9 per 1,000 compared with 10.8 per 1,000 for 1966. When adjusted for comparative purposes with other areas the Death Rate was 16.02, the figure for England and Wales during 1967 being 11.2. The causes of death were as shown in the table on page 3.

INFANT MORTALITY

Seven infants died under the age of twelve months.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

No deaths occured as a result of pregnancy.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following figures indicate the extent to which all types of notifiable infectious diseases occurred.

Whooping Cough	6.
Measles	16.
Pneumonia	-
Respiratory Tuberculosis	7.
Scarlet Fever	2.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Specimens obtained from patients by family practitioners for various bacteriological tests are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Manchester. Reports upon specimens are sent to the patient's own doctor and copies are forwarded to the Health Office.

TUBERCULOSIS	Male	Female
Number of cases on the register on 31.12.66.	23	25
Number of cases added to register during 1967 was	9	4
Number of cases removed from register during 1967 was	2	3
Number of cases remaining on register on 31.12.67.	30	26

Services administered by the Cheshire County Council

CARE OF MOTHERS AND BABIES

A weekly ante-natal Clinic is held following the School Nurse's session each Tuesday afternoon. The local Domiciliary Midwife attends for the purpose of examination of expectant mothers who wish to have their babies at home. The afternoon of the 2nd Monday in each month is devoted to immunisation and is attended by the Divisional Medical Officer. Other immunisation sessions are carried out as the need arises.

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CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1967 IN THE URBAN DISTRICT OF LONGDENDALE

	Sex	Total all ages.	Under 4 wks	4 wks & under 1 year.	AGE IN YEARS 1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	3
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1
17. Vascular lesions of Nervous System.	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	1	2
	F	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	4
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	M	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	7	3	8
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	1
20. Other Heart Disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	4
21. Other Circulatory Disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
23. Pneumonia	M	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
	F	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
24. Bronchitis	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate.	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
31. Congenital Malformations	M	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases.	M	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
34. All Other Accidents	M	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
35. Suicide.	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES.	M	55	1	4	1	-	-	-	3	3	14	10	19
	F	50	1	1	1	-	-	-	2	4	6	15	20

LONGDENDALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH INSEPCTOR'S REPORT

for the Year ending

31st December, 1967

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1967.

The growth of the District is indicated by reference to the Registrar General's estimate of population, which in mid-1965 was 5,590 and in mid-1970 was 9,600, or, alternatively, by reference to the number of dwellings, viz; at the end of 1964 being 1,978 and at the end of 1967, 3,443.

This, together with the spate of new legislation in what seems to be ever more complex presentation, makes day to day work more demanding and consequently routine work and attention to major scheme suffer.

My thanks are again due both to the Officers of the Council and to Dr. Darling for their co-operation, of which I am very conscious, and not least to the Members of the Council for their support.

Yours faithfully,

F. SKIRROW.

Public Health Inspector.

TABLE SHOWING SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES WITHIN DISTRICT

	31.12.66.	31.12.67.		Increase or Decrease 1966 - 1967	Percentage of total dwellings.
Separate dwellings	3428	3443			
Dwellings served by					
(a) Chemical & Paid Closets	104	82	-	22	2.3
(b) Water Carriage Closets	3324	3361	+	37	97.7
(a) Council Sewerage Scheme	3263	3293	+	30	95.8
(b) Septic Tanks	83	82	-	1	2.3
(c) Other means	82	68	-	14	1.9
(a) Mains Water	3338	3356	+	18	97.5
(b) Private supply.	90	87	-	3	2.5
Dwellings with Baths	2836	2894	+	62	84.0

From the above table it will be seen that there has not been a great rise in the number of dwellings in the district as compared with previous years. The number of new houses built privately was 23, these all being in Mottram (on the Hall Drive and Roe Cross Estates, chiefly), while the number of dwellings on the Manchester Corporation Hattersley Estate increased by only 14, to a total figure of 1402, and 22 properties were demolished. There were no dwellings completed by the Council, though negotiations progressed in respect of further development at Woodlands Close, Mottram.

The number of houses improved by Standard Grant procedure was 17, with two additional Discretionary Grant improvements, while 6 houses were brought up to a similar standard but without taking advantage of grant facilities. This number is disappointing, having regard to the number of properties still remaining without bathrooms and internal water-closets amenities, and especially disappointing was the lack of response to circular letters sent to the owners of some 70 selected properties regarded as suitable for improvement. It can only be hoped that, with amending legislation forecast in the White Paper, a new impetus can be given to the improvement of existing properties.

HOUSING ACT, 1957

9 Market Place, Mottram, 27, 29, 31 Mottram Moor, Mottram, 1, 3, 5, 7 Shaw Street, Mottram. 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 Market Street, Hollingworth. 3, 5 Stalybridge Road, Mottram, 1, 3, 5 Hodge Lane, Broadbottom.	Demolition completed in compliance with Orders made under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.
13 Wednesbough, Hollingworth.	Back to back house voluntarily demolished by new owner.
1, 3, 5 Cannon Street, Hollingworth 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15 Brick Street, Broadbottom. 2, 4, 6, 8 Woolley Lane, Hollingworth.	Demolition Orders made under Sec. 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.

Slight progress was made in the consideration of the properties 96/106 Market Street, and 2, 4, 6 Moorfield Terrace, Hollingworth, which are listed for demolition action, but as previously referred to, presented difficulties in the matter of providing alternative accommodation for three shops in the block. After lengthy negotiations, Outline planning approval was given for new shop building at the rear of the existing premises and a meeting was held with the occupiers of the shops in November, 1967 to discuss the situation.

There were no applications for Disrepair Certificates.

There are no houses in multiple occupation, nor common lodging houses, within the district.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Number of Informal or Verbal Notices	145
Number of Statutory Notices served	4
Number of properties at which defects remedied or nuisances abated following informal action	162
Number of properties at which defects or nuisances abated following statutory action	2

Fifty-five of the informal notices concerned Manchester Corporation dwellings on the Hattersley Estate, many of which dealt with condens tion troubles. The subject of condensation in these properties was dealt with at length in last year's report, and though deliberations continued and palliatives were tried in some dwellings, it could not be said that the position had greatly improved; the continued absence of a tenancy and complaints office on the estate give the same difficulties as described in last year's report, with far too many tenants turning towards this authoritity for the handling of complaints, instead of dealing directly and satisfactorily with Manchester Corporation, their landlords.

Court proceedings were instituted in respect of outstanding Section 93, Public Health Act 1936 notices on four separate properties. Three of the properties were covered by one ownership, and this case was adjourned for direct negotiations with the owner's solicitor, which resulted in the necessary work being put in hand, while in the other case an abatement order was made.

CLEAN AIR ACT

The district is not designated as a "black area" though readings on the folumetric instrument sited at the Council Offices, Hollingworth, show that, especially in respect of smoke measurement, the district cannot be said to have readings consistently better than some areas designated as "black areas" especially where action has been taken in the establishing of Smoke Control Areas. Figures of the results from some 36 sites are made available from the South-East Lancashire and North Cheshire Consultative Committee for the Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution, of which this authority is a member, and arising from the consideration of these submissions, the Council agreed to consider a report on possible smoke control action.

The following gives quarterly averages for the measurement of pollution from the volumetric instrument referred to :-

Period	Smoke (Conc. Ug/M3)	Sulphur Dioxide (Conc. Ug/M3)
January, February, March,	143	124
April, May, June,	71	66
July, August, September,	65	54
October, November, December.	179	105

On two occasions it was found necessary to draw the attention of firms to excessive emission from industrial chimneys, investigation in each case showing this to be due to defects in mechanical oil firing.

WATER SUPPLY

The supply and distribution of mains water within the district is by Manchester Corporation Waterworks, and it has been fully described in previous years' reports. The raw supply is treated in the most up-to-date of filtration and chlorination plants and the supply is distributed to consumers in the past consistently described by the Chief Chemist to the undertakers as of very satisfactory quality, chemically and bacteriologically.

Large number of samples are taken at short intervals by the Manchester Waterworks staff, and additionally eleven samples were submitted by this authority to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. In not one of these eleven samples were there a coli count.

Early in the year a joint letter of complaint was received as to discolouration of water from the mains supply to properties in Edge Lane, Mottram. As reported in last year's report, this had previously been referred to the Manchester Waterworks Department ; re-lining of the main during the year by specialist contractors remedied this trouble. It should be pointed out that bacteriological samples of the discoloured water before the re-lining were completely satisfactory bacteriologically.

Results given below were taken from the same private supply (serving two properties):-

	Probable Numbers per 100 ml.	
	Coliform Bacilli	Bact. Coli (Type 1)
1	180+	Nil
2	1	0
3	0	0

The first sample was taken immediately after the carrying out of protective work on the supply tank, and the high count probably arose from disturbance during this work - samples 2 and 3 showed the benefit from the measure taken.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

This service is under the control of the Engineer and Surveyor. A weekly collection service is given to all except the very isolated parts of the district, where collections are made fortnightly. Tipping continued at Hyde Corporation tip at Dunkirk Farm, Hyde.

One interesting development during the year was the consideration of the provision of a joint pulverisation plant for refuse disposal to serve Glossop M.B. and possibly Tintwistle R.D.C., and a joint visit to an existing plant was made to assess the feasibility.

RODENT CONTROL.

Free treatment continued to be given against rodent infestation, this work, as from 1st April 1967, being carried out be a specialist firm under contract to the Council.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Premises — Analysis at the year end

Type	No.	Registration (if any)	
		Sect. 16 Food & Drugs Act, 1955	
		Ice Cream	Preserved food
1. Chip Potatoes, Fried Fish.	3.	-	3
2. Butchers.	9.	-	8
3. Manufacturing Bakery, Grocery, Sweets	3.	1	1
4. Grocery, Sweets, Greengrocery.	13.	5	-
5. Grocery, Sweets.	7.	1	-
6. Sweets.	6.	3	-
7. Greengrocery.	3.	-	-
8. Greengrocery, Fish.	3.	-	-
9. Retail Bakery, Grocery, Sweets.	3.	2	2
10. Public Houses.	15.	-	-
11. Clubs selling drinks.	4.	-	-
12. Factory & School Canteens.	8.	-	-
13. Cafes.	5.	3	-

One complaint investigated during the year related to the condition of tinned salmon, which, though proved to be well founded, had arisen from natural conditions which could not be associated with negligence, and consultation with the County Weights and Measures Department showed that there were no grounds for proceedings to be taken.

There are neither egg pasteurising plants nor poultry processing premises within the district.

MILK SUPPLY

The licensing of milk suppliers within the district is under the control of the Cheshire County Council, with the exception of producer retailers who are licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, & Food.

The County Council undertakes the sampling of both heat treated and raw milk retailed in the district, information on these results, a summary of which is given below, being made available by the County Medical Officer of Health.

	Pass	Fail	Void
Sterilised Milk (Turbidity Test)	17	-	-
Pasteurised Milk (Methylene Blue Test) (Phosphatase Test)	58	-	-
Untreated Farm Bottled Milk (Methylene Blue Test)	99	11	6

Two samples of U.H.T. treated milk were reported as satisfactory (less than 10 colonies).

Note:

The foregoing tests are those prescribed under the Milk (Special Disignation) Regulations, and are intended to indicate the cleanliness of production and handling, and/or effectiveness of heat treatment. They do not have reference to the quality of the milk as to fat and non-fatty solids content.

In addition, results were notified as follows on tests for brucella infection in raw milk :-

	Milk Ring Test		Culture	
	Negative	Positive	Negative	Positive
(1) Retail Samples	77	28+ 3++ 4+++	33	1
(2) Individual Cow Samples	41	7+ 1++ 3+++	14	2

A change in the sampling policy was notified at the beginning of the year which involved group or individual cow sampling of herds where a positive ring test had been reported on retail sampling from that supply, and routine similar sampling of all herds from which raw milk is retailed at four-monthly intervals. This superseded the former bulk sampling carried out at farms and aimed at making more specific indentification of suspected animals in raw milk herds.

Sampling virtually ceased by the end of October, due to the severe outbreak of foot and mouth disease.

Of the positive culture samples shown above, the one from retail samples involved a herd in an adjoining district, and a pasteurisation order was placed on the farm until the animals were identified by the Authority involved.

The two positive culture results were found after individual cow sampling a herd from which a +++ M.R.T. report had been received on a retail sample.- In this case within our own area a Pasteurisation Order was made under Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1959, which was in force until the two animals were removed from the farm.

As far as national policy on the control of herds was concerned, it was some encouragement to see the implementation by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food of a policy which gave producers an opportunity to become accredited herds by voluntary co-operation in tests over a period, the last of which involved blood testing every animal in the herd. If, subject to satisfactory tests, a herd is then placed on the register, compensation is payable in respect of any brucella positive animals subsequently found. Though only as yet a voluntary scheme, this is at least a basis for eradication of infected animals with provision for compensation to producers, subject to the effort and outlay in initial testing.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES

There are no slaughter houses within the district.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The total number of premises registered at the end of the year was -

Offices	1
Retail Shops	16
Catering Establishments	11

Thirty-six visits were made to these premises and eight informal notices served for non-compliance with the requirements of the Act.

One accident was reported in accordance with Section 48.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT ACT, 1963

One boarding establishment continued to be licensed under the Act within the district.

APPENDIX

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1967 for the URBAN DISTRICT OF LONGDENDALE in the County of Cheshire.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	12	5	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	1	1	-	-
TOTAL	13	6	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Refd. to H.M. Insp. (4)	by H.M. Insp. (5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2).	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3).	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4).	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (s.6).	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7).	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable of defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	1	-	-	-

APPENDIX - (2)

Factories Act, 1961

Part viii of the Act

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

			Section 110		Section 111	
Nature of work (1)	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council. (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises. (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions. (7)
Wearing apparel) Making etc.	4	-	-	-	-	-
Cleaning and washing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brush making	1	-	-	-	-	-
All other forms of outwork.	-	-	-	-	-	-